

## Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

NEA-10 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02 /139 W

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R 291730Z APR 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1443

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 3278

ACTION STR

PASS AGRICULTURE

H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: VISIT TO GENEVA OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE BUTZ

1. SUMMARY. DURING A 22-HOUR STOPOVER IN GENEVA ON APRIL 27-28, SECRETARY BUTZ CONFERRED WITH AMBASSADOR WALKER AND THE U.S. MTN DELEGATION; MET WITH SEVERAL FOREIGN AMBASSADORS AND HEADS OF DELEGATION TO THE MTN; CONFERRED BRIEFLY WITH AMBASSADOR DALE AND OFFICERS OF U.S. MISSION; GAVE A SPEECH TO A LARGE AUDIENCE OF FOREIGN MTN DELEGATES AT THE UN PALAIS FOLLOWED BY A PRESS CONFERENCE; AND MET WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL LONG AND DEPUTY GENERAL PATTERSON OF GATT. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARY BUTZ, ACCOMPANIED BY FAS ADMINISTRATOR HUME AND OTHER USDA OFFICIALS, PAID A BRIEF VISIT TO GENEVA ON APRIL 27-28. ON APRIL 27, THE SECRETARY MET  
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AT AMBASSADOR WALKER'S RESIDENCE WITH SEVERAL HEADS OF

FOREIGN MTN DELEGATIONS. THESE INCLUDED JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TSURUMI, CANADIAN AMBASSADOR GREY, NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADOR EASTERBROOK-SMITH, BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR MACIEL, MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR LAI, EC REPRESENTATIVE LUYTEN, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER RYAN AND ALSO GATT DIRECTOR GENERAL LONG.

3. IN THE MORNING OF APRIL 28, THE SECRETARY CONFERRED AT LENGTH WITH AMBASSADOR WALKER ABOUT THE MTN AND AGRICULTURE'S ROLE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THE SECRETARY THEN MET WITH THE ENTIRE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE MTN AND WITH OFFICERS OF THE U.S. MISSION GENEVA, INCLUDING AMBASSADOR DALE. IN HIS MEETING WITH THE MTN DELEGATION, THE SECRETARY EXPLAINED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF U.S. FARM EXPORTS TO THE U.S. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND THE IMPORTANCE WHICH U.S. AGRICULTURE ATTACHES TO THE REMOVAL OF TRADE BARRIERS, IN PARTICULAR NTM'S.

4. IN HIS TALK TO SOME 100 MEMBERS OF FOREIGN MTN DELEGATIONS AT THE UN PALAIS, THE SECRETARY STRESSED THAT THE WORLD'S FARMERS MUST RECEIVE MORE ATTENTION IN THE TOKYO ROUND THAN THEY HAVE RECEIVED IN EARLIER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID THE BASIC QUESTION IS WHETHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ARE TO BE TRADED UNDER RULES DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF OTHER PRODUCTS. WHILE TARIFFS REMAIN IMPORTANT, THE ELIMINATION OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES IS ONE OF THE MAJOR TASKS OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THE SECRETARY DESCRIBED RECENT CHANGES IN U.S. AGRICULTURAL POLICY AND THE SUBSEQUENT INCREASE IN U.S. PRODUCTION. THE U.S. FARMERS' ABILITY TO RESPOND TO MARKET FORCES WAS NOT ONLY OF BENEFIT TO AMERICAN FARMERS BUT TO EVERYBODY IN THE WORLD. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THE U.S. ADHERES TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT SPECIAL CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE LDC'S IN THE MTN. HE ALSO STRESSED THAT INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND TRADE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO WORLD PEACE.

5. FOLLOWING HIS ADDRESS TO FOREIGN DELEGATES, THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECRETARY HELD A 30-MINUTE PRESS CONFERENCE (SEE SEPTEL). THEREAFTER HE ATTENDED A WORKING LUNCHEON WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL LONG AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL PATTERSON OF THE GATT.

6. NOTWITHSTANDING ITS SHORT DURATION, SECRETARY BUTZ'S GENEVA VISIT WAS VERY PRODUCTIVE AND HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE MTN. WALKER

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